

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, KN, KS, US

SUBJECT: GOV SCRANTON MEETS ROK FOREIGN MINISTER PARK, SEPTEMBER
28, 1976

REF: (A) SEOUL 7797; (B) SEOUL 7846

1. ROK FOREIGN MINISTER PARK HAD ASKED GOVERNOR SCRANTON TO LUNCH SEPTEMBER 27, BUT THIS WAS CANCELLED WHEN PARK WENT TO WASHINGTON TO MEET THE SECRETARY. SCRANTON-PARK MEETING SUBSEQUENTLY RESCHEDULED FOR AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 28 AT UN HEADQUARTERS.

2. PARK, ACCOMPANIED BY ROK PERMANENT OBSERVER MOON, SAID HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON HAD WORKED OUT VERY WELL INDEED. PARK EXPRESSED "PROFOUND APPRECIATION" FOR SCRANTON'S EFFORTS ON KOREAN QUESTION. PARK SAID HE HAD A MESSAGE FROM ROK PRESIDENT PARK IN WHICH LATTER EXPRESSED "HAPPINESS" OVER WITHDRAWAL OF PRO-DPRK RESOLUTION.

3. SCRANTON THANKED PARK AND SAID THAT A GOOD MANY PEOPLE ABOUT THE U.N. WERE TAKING CREDIT FOR OR INDICATING SATISFACTION OVER PRO-DPRK WITHDRAWAL. CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE SMID, FOR INSTANCE, HAD CLAIMED THAT WITHDRAWAL
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RESULTED FROM HIS TALKS LAST SUMMER IN PYONGYANG. ROMANIA'S

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE DATCU HAD TOLD SCRANTON THAT MANY ON PRO SIDE WERE PLEASED WITH OUTCOME, AS NORTH KOREANS WERE AWKWARD TO WORK WITH. ADDITIONALLY, POLAND'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE JAROSZEK, WHO IS CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEE I, HAD SEEMED RELIEVED AND HAS COMPLAINED TO SCRANTON THAT NORTH KOREANS TOOK POSITIONS WITHOUT CONSULTING OTHERS. FURTHERMORE, YUGOSLAVIA'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE PETRIC, ALTHOUGH CIRCUMSPECTLY, HAD INDICATED NO DISPLEASURE OVER THE RESULT. PETRIC HAD DONE SO BY SAYING TO SCRANTON THAT THE ONLY WAY TO MAKE PROGRESS ON KOREA WAS TO GET THE TWO KOREANS SIDES TO THE TABLE TOGETHER.

4. PARK COMMENTED THAT THIS HAD BEEN AN ENCOURAGING YEAR, BUT THAT OUR SIDE MUST WATCH DEVELOPMENTS CAREFULLY. SCRANTON AGREED AND ASSURED PARK OF CONTINUED CLOSE AND FULL SUPPORT. SCRANTON STRESSED THAT HARD WORK HAD BROUGHT ABOUT THE CONSTRUCTIVE RESULT THIS YEAR. PARK AGREED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CORE GROUP EFFORT IN DEVELOPING THE DECISIVE STRENGTH OF POSITION WHICH OUR SIDE ENJOYED.

5. COMMENT: PARK, WHO WOULD DEPART NEW YORK SEPTEMBER 29, APPEARED IN FINE SPIRITS. HE DID NOT REFLECT ANY OF THE WORRIES RECORDED IN REF (A) THAT THE U.S. MIGHT BEGIN DIRECT OR INDIRECT TALKS WITH NORTH KOREA. NEITHER HAVE MOON OR OTHERS IN ROK OBSERVER OFFICE IN RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH US. SCRANTON

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